

Note on *Junco annectens* Baird and *J. ridgwayi* Mearns.—Although Professor Baird based his *Junco annectens* (Ornithology of California, I, 1870, p. 564) on several specimens representing the bird which we have been accustomed to call by that name and one example typical of *J. ridgwayi* Mearns (Auk, VII, July, 1890, p. 243), reference to these specimens and careful comparison with Prof. Baird's description show clearly that the rufous-backed specimen is the type of *J. annectens*. *Junco ridgwayi* Mearns, therefore, becomes a synonym of *J. annectens* Baird, and the other form (*J. annectens*, Auct. nec Baird) being without a name I take pleasure in bestowing upon it the name *Junco mearnsi*, in compliment to my friend, Dr. Edgar A. Mearns, U. S. A.

*Junco mearnsi* is similar to *J. annectens*, but may easily be distinguished by having the back hair brown, not conspicuously different in color from the gray of hind neck and rump, instead of being bright rusty or rufous, as in *J. caniceps*.

The type of *J. mearnsi* is No. 11164, U. S. Nat. Mus., ♂ ad., Fort Bridger, Wyoming, April 12, 1858; C. Drexler. The type of *J. annectens* is No. 10701, U. S. Nat. Mus., ♀ ad., Fort Bridger, May 28, 1858; C. Drexler.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Rectifications of Synonymy in the Genus *Junco*.—The *Junco hyemalis danbyi* which I described in the Nidologist, III, No. 2, Oct. 1895, p. 14, as a provisional new subspecies from the Black Hills, and named for Prof. Durward E. Danby, principal of the high school of Custer, S. D., proves to be simply the young of *J. aikenii*, the characteristic representative of the genus in the said region. The type specimen, lacking the white wing-bars of the adult, has lately been deposited in the U. S. National Museum. The naming of the supposed new form will prove to have been not entirely in vain if it serves to emphasize the fact that *J. aikenii* is so thoroughly distinct from *J. hyemalis* that it can be recognized at any age, apart from the presence of its supposed chief distinctive characters—the white wing-bars. These are wanting at first, in birds of the year, and first appear as two rows of white dots on the ends of the median and greater coverts, respectively; these dots enlarge to spots by degrees, and finally coalesce as complete bars. The bird could not be mistaken for *hyemalis* at any age; the 'aspect' in life, even at gunshot range, is distinctive; for one receives the impression of a large gray bird, more like *caniceps* than like *hyemalis*.

*J. h. connectens* of my 'Key', 2d-4th eds., 1884-90, p. 378, is a good subspecies which has been accidentally overlooked by the A. O. U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature in preparing both the editions of our Check-List, 1886 and 1895. In fact it also escaped my own memory, until it was brought to mind by the description of *J. h. shufeldti* by Mr. Coale, in The Auk, IV, Oct. 1887, p. 330; since which time I have been intending to bring up the case for final readjustment, but have meanwhile been much preoccupied with other than ornithological affairs. Mr. Coale's